

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9520

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ABIDJAN 5895

AFDROUGHT

FROM SNYDER

PARIS FOR HELMAN; BRUSSELS FOR MARTIN; LAGOS FOR USAID; ROME/FODAG

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E O 11652: NA

SUBJ: SUMMARY OF CILSS/OSRO FIELD TRANSPORTATION MEETING

DAKAR, 7/15-7/17

REF: ABIDJAN 5695

1. REFTEL PROVIDED SUMMARY DETAIL FIRST OF TWO FIELD SESSIONS ORGANIZED BY FAO/OSRO AND CILSS ON PORT/TRANSHIPMENT REQUIREMENTS AND ALTERNATIVE FOOD MOVEMENTS. THE INITIAL SESSION WAS HELD IN COTONOU ON 7/8-9

2. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES OSRO/CILSS SUMMARY OF KEY POINT/CONCLUSIONS RESULTING FROM SECOND SESSION JUST CONCLUDED DAKAR. THE TWO DAY CONFERENCE DEALT WITH ISSUES RELATED TO CLEARANCE OF THE PORTS OF DAKAR/ABIDJAN AND EVACUATION/TRANSHIPMENT TO MALI, MAURITANIA, SENEGAL AND THE GAMBIA.

3. WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF COTONOU MEETING BEHIND AND UPGRADED, KNOWLEDGEABLE REPRESENTATION, THE DAKAR MEETINGS WERE A DISTINCT IMPROVEMENT IN TERMS BOTH UNDERSTANDING AND IMMEDIATE/DONOR COUNTRY ACTIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO PORT OF DAKAR/ABIDJAN. FOR DAKAR, IF FRENCH AND BRITISH OFFERS ACCEPTED, AT LEAST 6,400 TONS OF PRESENT MALI STOCKS WILL BE SHIFTED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY TO SENEGAL AND BANJUL. WHILE LITTLE PROGRESS WAS DEVELOPED FOR DEALING WITH LARGE STOCKPILES MALI COMMERCIAL CARGO, IT WOULD APPEAR EEC WILL SERIOUSLY CONSIDER REMOVING PRESENT STOCKS TO COVER STORAGE. POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED RAIL EVACUATION BY ADDITIONAL 1,000 TONS PER WEEK TO MALI IS GREATER AND MAY DEVELOP SHORTLY. FOR ABIDJAN, JOINT OSRO/AID ACTION WILL RESULT IN EXPANSION DIRECT TRUCKING FOR MALI IN ADDITIONAL RAIL MOVEMENT AND WILL MOVE 1,500 TONS COMMERCIAL RICE WITHIN NEXT TWO WEEKS.

4. FOLLOWING IS OSRO/CILSS SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS: 1 EVACUATION FROM PORTS:

DESPITE LARGE TONNAGES OF FOOD ALREADY DELIVERED TO MALI, MAURITANIA AND SENEGAL IN 1974, MEETING EXPRESSED CONCERN MEASURES NECESSARY TO EXPEDITE EVACUATION.

2. NOTING THAT DETERIORATION OF FOOD WHEN STORED IN THE OPEN UNDER TARPAULINS IN HOT, HUMID CONDITIONS IS CERTAIN AND IS CONDUSIVE UNCLASSIFIED

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TO INSECT INFESTATION, COVERED STORAGE WITH PROPER PEST CONTROL MEASURES IS NEEDED FOR STOCKS NOT LIKELY TO BE TRANSPORTED IN NEXT FEW WEEKS.

3. WHERE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES, INTERCOUNTRY LOANS OF DONATED FOOD

NOW IN PORTS COULD BE ARRANGED FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT.

4. PORT SITUATION AND AT TERMINAL POINTS IS IN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY SECTION BELOW.

5. PORT COMMITTEES: INFORMAL COMMITTEES ALREADY EXIST AT EACH PORT; THESE COMMITTEES SHOULD BE EXPANDED AND KEEP UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW THE SITUATION AT PORTS, EVACUATION BASED ON PRIORITIES AND THE PROPER PROTECTION OF STOCKS.

6. REBAGGING: FUTURE SHIPMENTS OF BAGGED FOOD SUPPLIES SHOULD INCLUDE 5 PCT EMPTY BAGS TO INSURE IMMEDIATE RE-BAGGING REQUIREMENTS.

7. INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION AND REMOTE AREAS: NEED FOR ADDITIONAL TRUCKS WAS STRESSED BY ALL RECIPIENT COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY 4-WHEEL DRIVE TRUCKS FOR THE REMOTE AREAS.

8. EVEN FLOW OF SUPPLIES: MAINTENANCE OF EVEN FLOW EMPHASISED TO FACILITIES USE OF NORMAL TRANSPORT. SINCE FOOD AID WOULD BE NEEDED NEXT YEAR TO HELP STABILIZE THE ECONOMY OF THE AFFECTED COUNTRIES, EVEN IF THE CROP THIS YEAR IS GOOD, DONORS ARE REQUESTED TO ENSURE THAT SUPPLIES ARRIVE REGULARLY FROM NOV/74 AND THAT BUNCHING IS AVOIDED.

9. FUEL: NO DIFFICULTIES REGARDING AVAILABILITY FUEL EXPRESSED. UNICEF PROVIDING FUEL AND FIVE TRUCKS FOR MOVEMENT OF CSM. GERMANY PROVIDING 400,000 LITRES OF FUEL TO MALI; FRANCE MAKING AVAILABLE CREDIT OF 2.5M CFA FRANCS FOR PURCHASE OF FUEL TO MALI.

10. FLEXIBILITY: NEED FOR GREATER CONTRACT FLEXIBILITY EXPRESSED. FRENCH DELEGATE ANNOUNCED THAT AFTER THE MEETINGS AT ROME AND COTONOU HIS GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO BOOKING TO ALTERNATE PORTS.

1. SPECIAL MEASURES FOR THE NEXT 6 WEEKS: CHAIRMAN, SPEAKING FOR CILSS, INFORMED MEETING THAT PRESIDENT LAMIZANA HAD REQUESTED HEADS UNCLASSIFIED

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OF STATES TO GIVE FULL PRIORITY TO MOVEMENT OF FOOD SUPPLIES AND ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS DURING NEXT SIX WEEKS AND ALSO TO AGREE THAT FOR THIS PERIOD ALL AVAILABLE TRANSPORT SHOULD BE USED IRRESPECTIVE OF INTER-COUNTRY QUOTA ARRANGEMENTS.

II - INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES - MALI

DAKAR: CURRENT STOCKS-59,000 TONS; EXPECTED ARRIVAL - 15,000 TONS

EVACUATION RATE: FOOD-GRAINS CURRENTLY 17,000 TO 18,000 TONS PER MONTH.

STORAGE: CURRENTLY STORED ON PALLETS UNDER TARPULINS IN NEAT STACKS IN THE OPEN. HOWEVER, POSSIBLE DETERIORATION AND LOSS IF STORED LONG UNDER HOT HUMID CONDITIONS PARTICULARLY IN THE RAINY SEASON RECENTLY STARTED. ALL DONORS WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THEIR TRANSITAIRES AND PORT COMMITTEES SHOULD DECIDE WHAT AMOUNTS BE

PLACED IN COVERED STORAGE WITH CONTROL OVER INSECT INFESTATION.

SUGGESTED LOCATIONS: DAKAR AND KAOLACK.

IVORY COAST

ABIDJAN: CURRENT STOCK-37,000 TONS; EXPECTED ARRIVALS-10,000 TONS
EVACUATION BY ROAD 10,000 TONS A MONTH. CAN BE INCREASED
SUBSTANTIALLY, POSSIBLY DOUBLED. EVACUATION BY RAIL TO OUAGA-
DOUGOU 2 TRAINS 500 TONS EACH PER WEEK. EVACUATION BY RAIL AHMPERED
BY DELAYS IN UNLOADING, STORAGE SPACE AND PROMPT RETURN OF WAGONS.
EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO CLEAR MALI STOCKS AT ABIDJAN BY TRUCK.

THIS CALLS FOR SPEEDY UNLOADING AT MALI END. MEASURES ALREADY TAKEN
BY MALI GOVERNMENT TO EASE MOVEMENT BY TRUCKS. ISSUE OF LAISSEZ-
PASSER TO ALL CONVOYS BEING INTRODUCED.
STORAGE: AS IN DAKAR ALTHOUGH QUICKER EVACUATION BY ROAD CAN REDUCE
QUANTITIES. DELEGATION FROM IVORY COAST AGREED TO MAKE AVAILABLE
ADDITIONAL WAREHOUSE FOR STOCKS FOR MALI IN ADDITIONAL WAREHOUSE
14 AND OPEN AIR FACILITIES.

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ADROUGHT

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION: I) DONE BY MALIAN ARMY. NEED FOR 50 FOUR-
WHEEL DRIVE TRUCKS. OSRO ASSITING TO LIMITED EXTENT BUT MORE TRUCKS
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REQUEST FROM DONORS.

II) SPECIAL PROBLEM OF 6TH REGION DAILY REQUIREMENT UNTIL END
SEPTEMBER 150 TONS. TOTAL 11,000 TONS. KNOWN SO FAR, US AIRLIFT
5,000 TONS, FRG 1,000 TONS, US TRANS-SAHARA 1,500 TONS, COTONOU
-GAO 2,000 TONS, TOTAL 9,500 TONS, BALANCE 1,500 TONS.

THIS BALANCE CAN BE MET BY TRANSPORT OF 1,500 TONS FROM ABIDJAN TO
OUAGADOUGOU BY RAIL AND OUAGA-NIAMEY-GAO BY ROAD. USAID EXPRESSED
KEEN INTEREST AND AGREED TO PURSUE THIS MATTER. OSRO AGREED TO MEET
THE DIFFERENCE IN COST BETWEEN RAIL AND ROAD FOR TRANSPORT OF 1,500
TONS COMMERICALLY PURCHASED RICE WHICH WOULD NORMALLY GO BY RAIL
FROM ABIDJAN TO MALI.

III) RIVER NAVIGATION - CURRENT STOCKS AT MOPTI 20,000 TONS AWAITING
COMMENCEMENT RIVER NAVIGATION. MOTORS FOR TWO TUGS SUPPLIED AND
NOW BEING MOUNTED. NEED TO AUGMENT AND REVITALISE CMN
FLEET. CANADA AND WORLD BANK EXAMINING LONG TERM PROPOSAL. THE
DREDGING OF THE CANAL AT MAKALA WAS PROPOSED TO FACILITATE
TRANSPORT AND THE FLEET ON THE RIVER SENEGAL NEEDS TO BE REINFORCED.

OTHER MEASURES:

I) URGENT NEED FOR TAMBACOUNDOU-KAYES ROAD IN TWO STAGES PRELIMINARY
IMPROVEMENTS AND LATER CONTRUCTION. INCLUDED IN CILSS MEDIUM TERM
COMPENDIUM. SHOULD BE GIVEN TOP PRIORITY.

II) MORE ROLLING STOCK FOR RAILWAYS - WAGONS AND LOCOMOTIVES.

III) IMPROVEMENT OF THE BOUAKE AND ZEGOUA ROAD.

IV) USE OF GAMBIA RIVER AS ACCESS ROUTE FOR MALI OFFERED BY GAMBIA.
POSSIBLE LOAN OF 2,000 TONS BRITISH MAIZE IN DAKAR FOR MALI TO BE
SHIPPED BANJUL SOONEST AND REPLACED FROM BRITISH DONATION TO THE
GAMBIA AROUND MID-AUGUST. MATTER BEING REFERRED BANJUL/BAMAKO/
LONDON

MAURITANIA

DAKAR: CURRENT STOCK - 3,300 TONS; EXPECTED ARRIVALS - 11,862 TONS

EVACUATION RATE: SATISFACTORY TO ROSSO. CAN BE INCREASED WITH
BRITISH FERRY EXPECTED TO BE OPERATIONAL THIRD WEEK JULY.
NOUAKCHOTT: CURRENT STOCK - 9,000 TONS
EVACUATION RATES: SLOW IN THE PAST BUT SPECIAL MEASURES BEING TAKEN
WITH ARMY ASSISTANCE TO CLEAR THE PORT BY END AUGUST. IT WAS
RECOGNIZED THAT DAMAGE AND LOSSES OCCURED DUE INHERENT PROBLEMS WITH
ALL LIGHTERAGE PORTS BUT MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO MINIMIZE THEM.
NOUADHIBOU: 3,000 TONS SENT BY FRG BUT NO INFORMATION ON HOUADHIBOU
AVAILABLE. MAURITANIA REPRESENTATIVE UNDERTOOK TO PROVIDE INFORMATION
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
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ROSSO: CURRENT STOCKS - 7,500 TONS
UP TO JULY 4 THERE WERE 22,000 TONS IN ROSSO BUT WITH SPECIAL
MEASURES USING THE ARMY 14,500 TONS HAVE BEEN EVACUATED AND REST
WILL BE EVACUATED SHORTLY. THIS CLEARS A MAJOR BOTTLE-NECK AND WILL
PERMIT FASTER INFLOW.
INLAND TRANSPORTATION: CURRENTLY MOVING WITH AUTOMOBILE PARK UNDER
MINISTER OF HEALTH BUT FUNDS NEEDED TO PAY FOR OPERATING COSTS.
OSRO WILL PROVIDE SOME FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE AND DONORS REQUESTED
TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS POL COST.
II) NEED ALSO EXPRESSED FOR INCREASING AUTOMOBILE PART WITH SUPPLY
MERCEDES BENZ AND BERLIET TRUCKS 10 TO 12 TON CAPACITY AND SPARE
PARTS.
III) MAY BE NEED FOR AIRLIFT TO 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD REGIONS.
IV) USAID STATED THAT THEY WOULD EXAMINE MOVEMENT BY RIVER FROM
ST. LOUIS/ROSSO TO BOGHE AND KAEDI.
V) MOVEMENT OF SUPPLIES BY ROAD VIA MATAM DURING THE DRY SESSION WAS
PRESENTED AS POSSIBLE ACCESS ROUTE FOR EASTERN MAURITANIA AND EVEN
THE 1ST REGION OF MALI.
STORAGE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMING CONSTRUCTION SEVERAL 2,000 TONS WARE-
HOUSES KEY CENTRES IN EASTERN MAURITANIA AND 4,000 TO 5,000 TON
WAREHOUSE AT ROSSO AND NOUAKCHOTT.

THE GAMBIA

QUANTITY DELIVERED	5,000
EXPECTED AUGUST	4,750 TONS
EXPECTED END YEAR	10,000

DELIVERED DATE UNKNOWN 20,250 TONS
EVACUATION-NO PROBLEMS. DIRECT SHIPMENT TO BANJUL PREFERRED.
INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION: NEED FOR 15 COMMER TRUCKS - 3 FOR EACH
DIVISION

SENEGAL

DAKAR: STOCKS IN PORT - 15,727 TONS; EXPECTED - 27,333 TONS
EVACUATION: NO PROBLEMS
INTERNAL TRANSPORT: NO PROBLEM EXCEPT TO REMOTE AREAS WHERE THIRTY
4-WHEEL-DRIVE DRUCKS 8-TON CAPACITY FOR THREE DIFFERENT REGIONS.
OTHER MEASURES
1) SENEGAL AGEED TO COOPERATE TO THE MAXIMUM WITH THE MALIAN
RAILWAYS TO INCREASE RAIL EVACUATION TO MALI. HOWEVER, NO APPREC-
IABLE INCREASE COULD BE GUARANTEED WITHOUT THE PROVISION OF

ADDITIONAL ROLLING STOCKS.

II) SENEGAL PROPOSED THE CONSTRUCTION OF WAREHOUSES IN A SEVEN
HECTARE AREA IN FRONT OF THE RAILWAY GOODS YARD FOR THE STORAGE OF
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SECURITY STOCKS.

III) DAKAR PORT AUTHORITIES STRESSED THE NEED FOR AN EVEN FLOW OF
SUPPLIES TO PREVENT THE CONGESTION OF DAKAR PORT IN FUTURE AND FOR
REGULAR INFORMATION ON SHIPMENTS.

IV) FRANCE PROPOSED THAT 4,500 TONS OF MAIZE DESTINED FOR MALI WHICH
HAVE BEEN STORED AT DAKAR PORT FOR SOME TIME MAY BE LOANED TO
SENEGAL AND REPLACED AT DAKAR FOR MALI WHEN TRANSPORT FROM DAKAR TO
BAMAKO RETURNS TO NORMAL.

V) PORT OF POLOCK SHOULD ALSO BE USED FOR SUPPLIES TO MALI.
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